servation measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas.

[English]

Coal Reserves in Arunachal Pradesh

3624. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal reserves are found recently in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the locations thereof with quantity and quality of coal reserves;

(c) whether any exploration work has been started there; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NAYMAGOUDA): (a) and (b) The details of location, quantity and quality of coal reserves are given below:—

Coalfield	District	Quality	Reserves in million tonnes			
			Proved	Indicated	Inferred	Total
1. Namchik Namphuk	Changlong	Low ash, High Sulphur Coals with caking characteristics	31.23	11.04	41.96	84.23
2. Miao Bum	-do-	Not assessed	—	—	6.0	6.0
			31.23	11.04	47.96	90.23

(c) and (d) Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited had carried out exploration work and submitted a geological report in 1984. Based on this report, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute had prepared a Feasibility Report for development of an Open-cast mine at Namchik for annual production capacity of 0.25 million tonnes with a capital outlay of Rs. 31.18 crores. Subsequently, the Oil India Limited had opined that no coal mining operations should be started as this might interfere with the oil exploration activity being carried out in this area. The plans for further exploration of coal reserves in Arunachal Pradesh have been shelved for the time being in consultation with Planning Commission.

Rail Travel Concession to Military Awardees

3625. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the freedom fighters are entitled to travel in first class alongwith spouse and an attendant free of fare with no restriction of mileage;

(b) if so, the details of the facilities extended to the freedom fighters in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend similar facilities without any restriction to the recipients of Gallantry awards like 'Param Vir Chakra' and 'Ashok Chakra'; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Freedom Fighters or their widows, who are receiving pension from Central Revenues, under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, are being issued Ist Class All India Complimentary Card Passes valid for self and a companion, who can be a spouse, and such passes are issued for a period of one year, renewable every year. They can travel either in Ist Class or AC Sleeper.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Superfast Train on Delhi to Dehradun Route

3626. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the existing train services from Delhi to Dehradun and Saharanpur are not only inadequate but also time

consuming due to a number of stoppages and long halts at different stations en route;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to start one superfast train from Delhi to Dehradun (Via Baraut-Shamli-Saharanpur-Lakshar and Haridwar with a return journey the same day; and

(c) if so, when it is likely to be implemented and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) The existing services between Delhi and Dehradun/ Saharanpur are considered adequate for the present level of traffic between these places. It is not feasible at present speed up these services by eliminating the existing stoppages. There is also no proposal to introduce any additional train on this route due to non-availability of adequate terminal/ maintenance facilities at either end and shortage of coaches and locomotives.

Promotion of SC/ST officials

3627. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of officers promoted to the senior administrative grade during 1987, 1988 and 1989 and how many belonged to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes among them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):

The information is as under:—

Year	Total	SC	ST
1987	69	6	NIL
1988	288	26	5
1989	165	11	5

Sending of SC/ST Officials on Deputation

3628. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway officers sent on deputation during the years 1987, 1988 and 1989 and how many belonged to SC/ST; and

(b) if no SC/ST officer was sent, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):

(a)	Year	No. of officers sent on deputation	No. of SC/ST
	1987	335	13
	1988	250	9
	1989	266	9

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Extension of train running between Surat and Bhusawal

3629. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the passenger train running between Surat and Bhusawal has stoppage of seven hours at Bhusawal;

(b) if so, whether instead of that halt, this train is proposed to be extended upto Khandwa to facilitate the passengers; and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) 113/114 Surat-Bhusawal Passenger has lie over of 8 hrs. and 35 minutes at Bhusawal. Other trains viz. 75/76 and 77/78 Surat-Bhusawal Passengers have lie over of less than 7 hrs. at Bhusawal.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Conversion of Jodhpur-Jaiselmer Line

3630. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government plan to convert the existing metre gauge railway line between Jodhpur and Jaiselmer;

(b) if so, the details of the project including the cost estimates and the arrangements for funding; and

(c) the stipulated time frame for starting and completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Conversion of Jodhpur-